

Clean Version:

Please amend the present application as follows:

IN THE TITLE:

Please amend the title to read "Microstructured Optical Fiber".

a1

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the Abstract with the following:

n²
In an optical fiber including a core region and cladding regions of not less than three layers which surrounds the core region in order, each of said cladding regions has a mean refractive index different from those of the adjacent regions, at least one of the cladding regions has a lower mean refractive index than both adjacent regions, and at least one cladding region is provided with a plurality of sub medium regions each having a refractive index lower than a main medium constituting this cladding region.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the following paragraphs of the specification.

Replace the paragraph at page 1, lines 1 and 2 with:

MICROSTRUCTURED OPTICAL FIBER

Replace the fourth paragraph at page 3, lines 24-26 and page 4, lines 1-6 with: